

NPL Site Narrative for A.I.W. Frank/Mid-County Mustang

A.I.W. FRANK CORP./MID-COUNTY MUSTANG Exton, Pennsylvania

Federal Register Notice: [October 4, 1989](#)

Conditions at proposal (June 24, 1988): The A.I.W. Frank Corp. (AIW)/Mid-County Mustang Site covers 16 acres in Exton, Chester County, Pennsylvania. Originally farmland, the area is undergoing rapid development to a residential, commercial, and light industrial area. During 1962-81, AIW produced styrofoam cups and plates and used trichloroethylene (TCE) and 1,1,1-trichloroethane (1,1,1-TCEA) to clean its machinery. The operation covers 15 acres at 717 East Lincoln Highway. Continental Refrigerator Corp. acquired the property in 1981 when AIW went bankrupt. Continental manufactures refrigerators, freezers, and warming cabinets for the institutional and food service industry.

Investigations by the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Resources (PA DER) indicate that AIW handled and disposed of solvents improperly. In early 1983, a consultant to the company found that an on-site monitoring well was contaminated with TCE, tetrachloroethylene (PCE), and 1,1,1-TCEA.

The Mid-County Mustang facility covers less than 1 acre at 891 East Lincoln Highway adjacent to the western boundary of AIW. Mid-County Mustang leased this property from the summer of

1982 until December 1984 from CDS Investments. Since the 1940s, the building leased by Mid-County Mustang has been used as an auto repair and/or body shop. The solvents used to clean auto engines were discharged into floor drains in the building and from there into an on-site stone bed drain field. In December 1983, a consultant to CDS Investments detected TCE, PCE, methylene chloride, and carbon tetrachloride at the floor drain and drain field. A hydrogeologic investigation of the neighboring AIW facility showed that a well on the Mid-County Mustang property was contaminated with TCE, PCE, and 1,1,1-TCEA.

An estimated 76,700 people obtain drinking water from public and private wells within 3 miles of the site.

Surface water within 3 miles downstream of the site is used for recreational activities and is threatened because run-off from the site could flow into Valley Creek 800 feet to the north.

The site is unfenced, making it possible for people and animals to come into direct contact with hazardous substances.

Status (October 4, 1989): EPA is conducting a search to identify parties potentially responsible for wastes associated with the site.

[The description of the site (release) is based on information available at the time the site was evaluated with the HRS. The description may change as additional information is gathered on the sources and extent of contamination. See [56 FR 5600](#), February 11, 1991, or subsequent FR notices.]